

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 52116
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
52116-63010464@requests.muckrock.com

Environmental Protection Agency
FOIA Office
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, DC 20004

April 9, 2018

This is a follow up to a previous request:

To Whom It May Concern:

I am filing a Freedom of Information Act request for the resignation letter of Samantha Dravis. Ms. Dravis worked as senior counsel and associate administrator in the EPA's Office of Policy. Her letter is believed to have been submitted during the week of March 26-30, 2018 (source: <https://wapo.st/2uMjjp7>).

I would prefer the request be filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not. Please produce the records on a rolling basis; at no point should the search for – or deliberation concerning – certain records delay the production of others that the agency has already retrieved and elected to produce.

I respectfully request that you waive all fees in connection with this request as provided by 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The Sierra Club is a national environmental nonprofit with no commercial interest in obtaining the requested information. Instead, our organization intends to analyze and disseminate the requested information free of charge so that the public can meaningfully participate in the active debates around the proper policies and degree of deregulation that the EPA should pursue.

The subject matter of the requested records is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the government by disclosing more information about the sudden departure of a high-level EPA official who was heading up the EPA's deregulation task force. Ms. Dravis has been involved in several high-profile decisions, including to reject a recommendation to ban chlorpyrifos.

The Sierra Club and its supporters have demonstrated interest and expertise in the subject area and have made many recommendations regarding EPA regulations. The organization actively works on pesticides, climate change, energy, and other issues that touch on the Office of Policy's portfolio.

In addition to the public interest fee waiver, I ask to be properly categorized as a representative of the news media. The bulk of my professional duties at the Sierra Club entails planning and writing content about public policy, including composing mass communications to our followers, analyzing FOIA responses, and coordinating press outreach. I have previously written about the federal government's work to reorganize its staff:

<https://sierraclub.org/planet/2017/05/trump-admin-policies-leave-700-cdc-jobs-vacant>
<https://sierraclub.org/planet/2017/04/hiring-freeze-prevented-epa-filling-hundreds-jobs>

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 52116
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
52116-63010464@requests.muckrock.com

This work, supplemented by Freedom of Information Act requests, was covered in major media outlets:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2017/05/19/nearly-700-vacancies-at-cdc-because-of-trump-administration-hiring-freeze/>
<http://www.cnn.com/2017/04/13/politics/epa-hiring-freeze/index.html>

The Sierra Club has the ability and intention to disseminate the information it receives through this request. The information may be shared through emails to an audience reaching into the millions, Facebook and Twitter posts reaching tens of thousands of followers, articles on our often-visited website, and analysis provided to the media.

In the event that there are fees, please inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. Please also include an explanation of why I was not granted the fee waivers and/or reductions.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Alexander Rony
Sierra Club

Filed via MuckRock.com
E-mail (Preferred): 52116-63010464@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 52116
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.

On April 6, 2018:
To Whom It May Concern:

I am filing a Freedom of Information Act request for the resignation letter of Samantha Dravis. Ms. Dravis worked as senior counsel and associate administrator in the EPA's Office of Policy. Her letter is believed to have been submitted during the week of March 26-30, 2018 (source: <https://wapo.st/2uMjjp7>).

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 52116
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
52116-63010464@requests.muckrock.com

I would prefer the request be filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not. Please produce the records on a rolling basis; at no point should the search for – or deliberation concerning – certain records delay the production of others that the agency has already retrieved and elected to produce.

I respectfully request that you waive all fees in connection with this request as provided by 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). The Sierra Club is a national environmental nonprofit with no commercial interest in obtaining the requested information. Instead, our organization intends to analyze and disseminate the requested information free of charge so that the public can meaningfully participate in the active debates around the proper policies and degree of deregulation that the EPA should pursue.

The subject matter of the requested records is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the government by disclosing more information about the sudden departure of a high-level EPA official who was heading up the EPA's deregulation task force. Ms. Dravis has been involved in several high-profile decisions, including to reject a recommendation to ban chlorpyrifos.

The Sierra Club and its supporters have demonstrated interest and expertise in the subject area and have made many recommendations regarding EPA regulations. The organization actively works on pesticides, climate change, energy, and other issues that touch on the Office of Policy's portfolio.

In addition to the public interest fee waiver, I ask to be properly categorized as a representative of the news media. The bulk of my professional duties at the Sierra Club entails planning and writing content about public policy, including composing mass communications to our followers, analyzing FOIA responses, and coordinating press outreach. I have previously written about the federal government's work to reorganize its staff:

<https://sierraclub.org/planet/2017/05/trump-admin-policies-leave-700-cdc-jobs-vacant>
<https://sierraclub.org/planet/2017/04/hiring-freeze-prevented-epa-filling-hundreds-jobs>

This work, supplemented by Freedom of Information Act requests, was covered in major media outlets:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2017/05/19/nearly-700-vacancies-at-cdc-because-of-trump-administration-hiring-freeze/>
<http://www.cnn.com/2017/04/13/politics/epa-hiring-freeze/index.html>

The Sierra Club has the ability and intention to disseminate the information it receives through this request. The information may be shared through emails to an audience reaching into the millions, Facebook and Twitter posts reaching tens of thousands of followers, articles on our often-visited website, and analysis provided to the media.

In the event that there are fees, please inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. Please also include an explanation of why I was not granted the fee waivers and/or reductions.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 52116
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
52116-63010464@requests.muckrock.com

response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Alexander Rony
Sierra Club

Filed via MuckRock.com
E-mail (Preferred): 52116-63010464@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 52116
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.